

Remarks

In the January 12, 2009 Office Action, the Examiner required applicants to elect one single species from each of the following species:

- (i) one specific condition to be treated and the effect to be achieved, with claims 1-11 and 24 reading on this species;
- (ii) one specific COX-2 inhibitor, with claims 12, 13, 16, 18 and 20 reading on this species;
- (iii) one specific oral contraceptive, with claims 22 and 23 reading on this species; and
- (iv) one specific GnRH-agonist, with claims 25 and 26 reading on this species.

In response, applicants elect, without traverse, the following species in the event no generic claim is finally deemed allowable:

- (i) a method for treating or preventing endometriosis in a patient in need of such treatment covered in claim 1 as the condition to be treated;
- (ii) etoricoxib as the specific COX-2 inhibitor, which is covered by claims 12 and 16;
- (iii) norethindrone as the specific oral contraceptive, which is covered by claims 22 and 23; and
- (iv) leuprolide acetate as the specific GnRH-agonist, which is covered by claims 25 and 26.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone her at the number provided below.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Communication. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Respectfully submitted,

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